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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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25X1

1 June 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

1. Dominican Republic: Political maneuvering continues by both sides. (Page 1)

25X1



4. Communist China: Mao Tse-tung rumored to be seriously ill. (Page 6)
5. Japan: Opposition to US bombing of North Vietnam encourages revival of united front. (Page 7)

25X1

25X1

6. Notes:  Syria; 

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

1 June 1965

***Dominican Republic:** (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT) Political maneuvering by both sides continues to dominate events in the Dominican stalemate.

The Government of National Reconstruction, in an attempt to enlarge its political base, has decided to invite the country's two largest political organizations--Juan Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party and Joaquin Balaguer's Reformist Party--to participate in the Imbert regime. Although no official response to the overture has been received, it is doubtful that either party would respond favorably. In fact, it appears that the Imbert junta may soon lose its only member with ties to Juan Bosch.

25X1

Meanwhile, Caamano's forces have been showing signs of unusual nervousness brought on by the continued uncertainty over Imbert's plans and what the US will allow loyalist forces to do. The rebels remain in a constant alert against an attack from the loyalist-held National Palace and fear Imbert may have devised a way to attack without violating US lines. Rumors abound of loyalist troop and tank movements.

Imbert, however, told the US naval attaché yesterday that he has no intention of attacking, but is using every psychological weapon possible to maintain pressure on the rebels.

Special UN representative Jose Mayobre left Santo Domingo yesterday for talks with UN Secretary General U Thant. It is probable that an enlarged UN role in the Dominican crisis will be discussed.

The Marxist-Leninist Dominican Popular Movement (MPD) wants and expects to see an agreement between the contending forces,

MPD leaders think the agreement would give them time to prepare and mount an even larger uprising against what they predict will be an unpopular compromise government.

25X1

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Next 5 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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Communist China: Mao Tse-tung's failure to appear in public since 14 March--his longest absence since 1962--has caused speculation in the Western press that he is seriously ill.

According to Reuters, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman denied these rumors on 31 May and claimed that Mao was in "excellent health." He may in fact be resting on vacation away from the capital, something he has done many times in the past. However, a number of peculiarities connected with reports of his activity during the past few months, together with his age (71) and a possible history of cardiovascular troubles in the late 1950s, suggests that his health may have suffered a sharp decline.

The Chinese Communist leader has not shown up at several recent functions which he might have been expected to attend. Mao, for example, apparently did not see Le Duan and other North Vietnamese leaders at any time during their visit to Peiping 19-23 April following a trip to Moscow. Mao's failure to play a role in the red carpet treatment given to the Vietnamese is all the more unusual in light of the current Sino-Soviet competition for influence in Hanoi.

Even propaganda treatment following Mao's last announced activity--a private reception for a group of visiting UAR officials in early April--was unusual. People's Daily almost invariably publishes a picture of Mao greeting such visitors, but no photograph has appeared on this occasion.

25X1

1 June 65

6

Japan: Widespread public opposition to US bombing of North Vietnam is encouraging a revival of a leftist-led united front for the first time since 1960.

The Japanese left has found a cause which it hopes to exploit to win increased support as well as to mend its own internal divisions. At the instigation of prominent left-leaning intellectuals, leaders of the Socialist Party and of the largest group of trade unions met with Communist Party leaders recently to organize protests on 9 June against US actions in Vietnam.

This is the first common leftist effort to include the Communists at the national level since the "Peoples Council Against the US-Japan Security Treaty" sparked the riots which led to the cancellation of President Eisenhower's visit to Japan in June 1960.

25X1

1 June 65

7

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25X1

Syria: [Dissension and unrest within the Syrian military appear to be growing. The continuing power struggle between radical and relatively more moderate factions within the officer corps has recently been complicated by controversy over the handling of a recent trial involving an Israeli spy, and a showdown between the competing factions may soon come to a head. Although

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1 June 65

8

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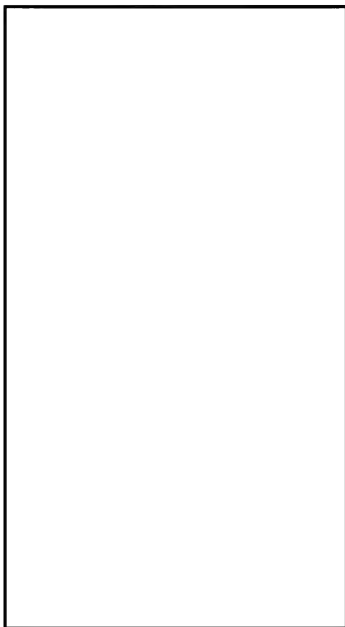
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